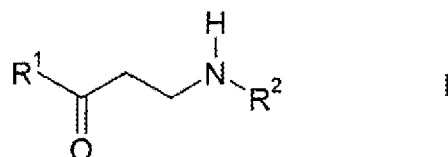


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A monoalkylaminoketone compound of the formula I



in which

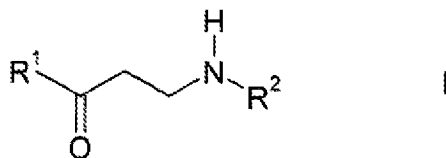
R¹ denotes a thienyl or furyl radical which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R³ and/or R⁴, provided that R¹ is not ~~2,5-dimethyl 3-thienyl~~ 3-thienyl substituted by both R³ and R⁴ where both R³ and R⁴ are methyl,

R² denotes alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,

R³, R⁴ each, independently of one another, denote H, alkyl or alkoxy having 1-20 C atoms, aryl, aryloxy or COOR², F, Br, OH, CN, NO₂, N(R²)₂ or NHCOR²,

or a salt thereof.

2. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** Process for the preparation of a monoalkylaminoketone compound of the formula I



in which

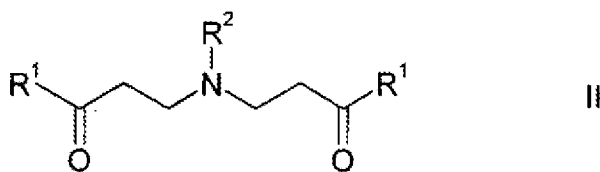
R¹ denotes a thienyl or furyl radical which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R³ and/or R⁴, provided that R¹ is not ~~2,5-dimethyl 3-thienyl~~ 3-thienyl substituted by both R³ and R⁴ where both R³ and R⁴ are

methyl,

R^2 denotes alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,

R^3, R^4 each, independently of one another, denote H, alkyl or alkoxy having 1-20 C atoms, aryl, aryloxy or $COOR^2$, F, Br, OH, CN, NO_2 , $N(R^2)_2$ or $NHCOR^2$,

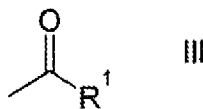
by reacting a compound of the formula II



in which

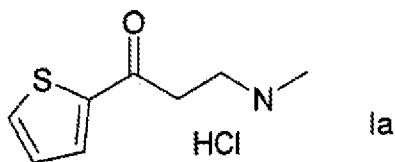
R^1 and R^2 have the meaning indicated above, in the presence of an alkylamine of the formula R^2NH_2 , in which R^2 has the meaning indicated above.

3. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to Claim 2, in which R^1 denotes 2-thienyl.
4. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to Claim 2, in which R^2 denotes methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or isopropyl.
5. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein the pH for the conversion of the compounds of the formula II into the compounds of the formula I is adjusted to about pH 2-7.5 by addition of an alkylamine of the formula R^2NH_2 .
6. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein the conversion of the compounds of the formula II into the compounds of the formula I is carried out at $0^\circ - 200^\circ C$.
7. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein firstly the compound of the formula II is obtained by reaction of a mixture of a formaldehyde source with a corresponding alkylammonium salt and a ketone of the formula III

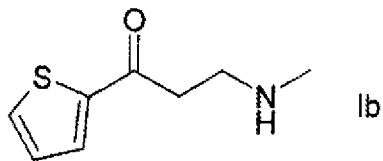


in which R^1 has the meaning indicated in claim 2,
in the presence of a strong acid, and the compounds of the formula II obtained in this way
are employed without further isolation for the preparation of the compounds of the
formula I.

8. **(Withdrawn)** Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to Claim 6, wherein the pH of the strongly acidic reaction mixture comprising the compounds of the formula II is increased to about pH 2-7.5, without further isolation of this compound, by addition of an alkylamine of the formula R^2NH_2 , and the mixture is subsequently warmed.
9. **(Withdrawn)** Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to Claim 7, wherein the reaction mixture comprising the compounds of the formula II is warmed to 0°C to 200°C after addition of a corresponding alkylamine.
10. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2 for the preparation of 3-methylamino-1-phenyl-1-propanone or 3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone.
11. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein an acid-addition salt of the compound of the formula II is employed, and an acid-addition salt of the compound of the formula I is obtained.
12. **(Previously presented)** A compound of claim 1 which is of the formula Ia:



13. **(Previously presented)** A compound of claim 1 which is of the formula Ib:



or a salt thereof.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) A compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 denotes 2-thienyl.

16. (Previously presented) A compound of claim 1, wherein R^2 denotes methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or isopropyl.

17. (Previously presented) A compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 is selected from: 2- or 3-furyl, or 2- or 3-thienyl, each optionally substituted by R^3 and/or R^4 .

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) A compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 and R^4 are both H.